



Name _____

Date _____

Don't Get Caught – Solve the Next Problem, Too!



Think about this. You live near the water. You walk along the shore. You go out in a boat. Sometimes you even fish. The fish you catch is a rockfish. This fish is big! It may tip the scales at 60 pounds (about 27 kilograms). It may be 60 inches (1 ½ meters) long.

But, many people go fishing. They catch this big fish. Before long, there aren't many fish left. What do you do? Tell about this.

To save this fish I would _____

Rockfish have two other names. Some people call us striped bass. Scientists call us *Morone saxatilis*.



People by the Chesapeake Bay had this problem. Over twenty years ago they saw that rockfish were disappearing. Many people worked together. They passed laws. No one could catch the rockfish. Is this your idea for saving the fish?

By 1995, rockfish once again swam in the Bay. Fishers could catch them. People ate rockfish. But, in the late 1990s, people saw dead rockfish. What was the matter? What was this next problem?

The rockfish had a disease. A bacterium gets inside the fish. Its organs swell. Sores develop. Many fish die. But scientists aren't sure where the bacterium comes from. They aren't sure if fish get it during a certain part of life. They have many questions to answer.

